

Recognized Authority on Connellsville Coke Trade.

Weekly Courier

Circulates Wherever Coke is Manufactured or Used.

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CONNELLSVILLE, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 9, 1913.

EIGHT PAGES.

Prices and Prospects.

SPOT COKE FALLS DOWN TO \$4 FLAT DESPITE HOLIDAYS

The Furnaces Accumulate Stocks and Avoid Pinch of Famine.

CONTRACT COKE MARKET QUIET

Most of the Inquiry for Idle Stocks; No Contract Pressing and Extent of Uncovered Consumption Uncertain.

Special to The Weekly Courier. PITTSBURGH, Jan. 8. The coke market is fully as strong as it was two or three weeks ago but it has not shown the full accretion of stocks over the holidays that was expected. The market for prompt furnace coke has not been as generally expected it would, and it is doubtful on this account that it did not, in other words, the fear of a particularly severe pinch were entertained so generally that particular strenuous efforts were made in such individual cases to protect against the effect. The furnaces in many cases accumulated stocks of coke on their own account, either by buying heavier shipments by operators who held their contracts or by buying spot coke in the market. Operators in other cases voluntarily increased their stocks so that they would not be behind when they found themselves unable during the holidays to ship their usual quotas.

In some instances operators put themselves in position to furnish spot coke at holiday time by expiring December 31 and called for definite tonnage. Several such contracts were completed two or three weeks before the close of the year and the shippers then have whatever coke development to offer on the spot market.

While there was a short time when prompt furnace coke was bringing \$4.15 and \$4.25, the bulk of the prompt coke marketed in the past fortnight has brought only about \$4. The total turnover has not been large, probably considerably less than the rate for six weeks ago, and the market is now quiet at \$4 flat.

Inasmuch as production and consumption of coke is very closely adjusted for many weeks, it goes without saying that the material current in shipments during the past two weeks could only be made up by drawing upon furnace stocks or by the coke producers themselves.

There is hardly as much active interest in the contract market as there was. Most of the inquiry of late has been for idle stocks, the bulk of the coming into blast this month by the pig iron market has been so quiet that furnacemen have probably decided to wait further developments in that direction before committing themselves to blowing in their furnaces.

There does not seem to be any contract pressing the market, but there is some question which could be found at any price. There is more uncertainty than usual about the situation, and the leading coke sellers know quite closely who has sold and who has not, but that is not the case with the market. The situation is not as clear as it was some time back, and the market is not as active as it was some time back.

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STEEL AND IRON TRADE PROSPECTS STILL ROSY

Sold Ahead More Fully Than Thought and Pressure for Deliveries Continues Unabated.

Special to The Weekly Courier. NEW YORK, Jan. 8. The American Metal Market and Daily Iron & Steel report will review the iron and steel markets tomorrow morning as follows:

Developments in the iron and steel market in the past week have been chiefly by way of disclosures that the industry is sold up even more fully than was thought. On all hands the year end summaries tend to show that business has been even better than anticipated. Three months is a low average for the quantity of specifications on books for finished steel products while another three months for the contract business not yet specified is altogether too low an estimate. Some of the large mills are probably sold up for almost the entire year.

The pressure for deliveries has not abated but has rather increased and the large mills are placed in such a comfortable position that their general statement is they do not desire any additional tonnage what they need is time to straighten out the obligations they have already incurred. Specifications in December were normal for this movement there being no particular rush to cover on expiring contracts for the reason that most of the mills have been following the practice of canceling unspecified monthly quotas at the close of each month. While the "blanket" or "big" contract is still in vogue, it has not been altogether eliminated from the finished steel trade there has been the modification of an almost universal introduction of the phrase in general statement is they do not desire any additional tonnage what they need is time to straighten out the obligations they have already incurred.

The Carnegie Steel Company has canceled practically the entire steel producing trade in an effort to find billets and sheet bars particularly open-hearted to apply against its contract obligations as it would prefer to devote more of its steel output to its own finishing mills but practically no steel has been found. Other producers are also in the market, while it is well known that many consumers would buy additional steel for this quarter's delivery if it could be had. It is probable that close to \$25 makers mill would be asked for open hearth sheet bars.

The car shops will make between 90,000 and 100,000 tons of steel in the next six months, and with 175,000 tons on books and inquiry out for about 50,000 more they are assured of operation for the year. The steel industry is in a position to represent an increase of one third over the average rate of last year and slight increase over the rate during the closing months of the year.

Pig iron has continued flat in all markets and while there is said to be a strong undertone this is due to the position of sellers rather than to buyers since the latter are taking no interest.

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Review of the Connellsville Coke Trade.

Statistical Summary.

PRODUCTION	WEEK ENDING JANUARY 4 1913				WEEK ENDING DEC 28, 1912			
	Ovens	In	Out	Tons	Ovens	In	Out	Tons
Connellsville	2420	18 177	4 217	212 612	2240	18 115	4 305	198 247
Lower Connellsville	16 421	11 667	1 757	371 192	16 421	11 667	1 757	371 192
Totals	38 841	22 510	6 001	384 204	38 841	22 510	6 001	379 005
FURNACE OVENS.								
Connellsville	18 108	14 647	3 459	171 538	18 108	14 647	3 459	169 373
Lower Connellsville	5 712	4 827	887	16 164	5 712	4 827	887	16 064
Totals	23 820	19 474	4 346	187 702	23 820	19 474	4 346	185 437
MERCHANT OVENS.								
Connellsville	4 711	3 926	788	11 254	4 711	3 926	788	11 254
Lower Connellsville	10 412	9 190	772	11 518	10 412	9 190	772	11 518
Totals	14 026	13 306	1 560	15 372	14 026	13 306	1 560	15 372
SHIPMENTS.								
To Pittsburgh	4 248 Cars				3 928 Cars			
To Point West of Pittsburgh	6 252 Cars				6 092 Cars			
To Point East of the Region	897 Cars				707 Cars			
Totals	11,397 Cars				10,855 Cars			

SPECULATION ON LIFE OF COKE REGION.

President H. A. Kahn of the Pittsburgh-Westmoreland Coal Company, Compiles Interesting Data Concerning Predictions of John W. Boucien That Connellsville Field is Fast Becoming Extinct.

Ever since the rather startling announcement made by John W. Boucien of Pittsburgh coal and coke development expert in The Weekly Courier of May 29, 1912 and subsequently repeated in an address before the Coal Mining Institute of America at Littleton, Colo., on June 1, 1912, the life of the Connellsville field has been a matter of speculation. One of the most interesting statements in this life of the Connellsville field has been the statement that the Pittsburgh-Westmoreland Coal Company operating in Westmoreland county on the eastern shore of the Pittsburgh coal field, has compiled the following facts and figures on the coke trade of last year.

The coke trade of last year was a record for the industry. The production of coke in the Connellsville field was 384,204 tons, an increase of 11,200 tons over the production of 373,005 tons in 1912. The output of coke in the Connellsville field was 384,204 tons, an increase of 11,200 tons over the production of 373,005 tons in 1912.

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Production and Output.

COKE PRODUCTION LAST WEEK GAINS OVER 25,000 TONS

But Greek Christmas This Week Promises Small Improvement.

Increased Coke Production

The Connellsville coke production for the week ending Saturday last shows a very satisfactory gain over the previous week, but the operators do not expect any improvement this week because of the fact that it is the Greek Christmas week and there are a great many of the Greek faith in the region. Production of coke is short because of labor troubles. Production shows a gain of 25,000 tons fairly distributed between the Connellsville and Westmoreland fields. The Connellsville field produced 187,702 tons and the Westmoreland field produced 169,373 tons.

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The Connellsville coke production for the week

SMOKE ABATEMENT IS POSSIBLE INSISTS BUREAU OF MINES

Proper Installation of Heating Equipment is Necessary.

PRESENT METHODS INEFFECTIVE

Ordinances of Various Cities Improperly Prepared and Impossible of Enforcement; Tests Show That Abatement Can Be Effectively

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Setting the speed of operating its own plant, the Bureau of Mines is attempting to combat the nuisance of smoke in cities. The bureau is not with the statement that the smoke problem can be largely reduced and perhaps entirely prevented. The power plant is connected with the important station of the Bureau at Pittsburgh, Pa., and it has been found that without objectionable smoke for more than two years.

The bureau's report, made public today, destroys the popular notion that smoke may be lessened by the use of a so-called "smoke consumer," some special device which if placed in the smoke or in the smoke passage, will in some way consume the smoke. Samuel R. Flagg, engineer in charge of the smoke investigations, declares that although such a method may not be an impossibility, it is impractical. Smoke, he says, is caused by the flames from the coal coming into contact with the cool surfaces of a boiler. As an illustration, place a saucer in the flame of a candle, and the bottom of the saucer will be covered with smoke. Hold the saucer just above the flame and there will be no smoke. Coal can be burned smokelessly, Engineer Flagg insists, if you give the coal the proper chance to burn. That is all that is to it.

The Bureau of Mines is charged with conducting tests to increase the efficiency with which the fuel purchased by the government is used, and incidentally, it has found that Federal buildings throughout the country are actually wasting coal but are adding to the smoke problem of the cities. This led to taking up an investigation of this troublesome problem.

It was suggested by Engineer Flagg that smoke abatement in cities could be accomplished by the same means, and he soon came to the conclusion that many of them were wrong and that the government was not doing its duty in some municipalities that could only serve to make the citizens fight them. He found laws that could not possibly be enforced. As a result of his investigation, he declares that the most progress can be made in cities by the method of training the public to smoke smokelessly. In all new buildings, furnaces shall be installed that are absolutely smokeless. In this report he quotes a number of the different smoke ordinances, and points out where they are good and bad, and builds up a series of ordinances that might prove of value to municipalities of various sizes.

Mr. Flagg says: "It is quite certain that the most effective smoke abatement in our cities has come in the past and must come in the future, through the organized effort of the city smoke inspection departments, supplemented by the active co-operation of citizens. A strong, public sentiment in favor of the smoke abatement is almost an absolute necessity, if satisfactory results are to be accomplished. The time may come when public sentiment against permitting the escape of dense smoke will be so strong that every plant owner or operator will feel obliged to prevent such escape of smoke, regardless of the existence of any ordinance or of his own personal feeling or inclination. This condition does not prevail today in any city in the United States. Just as soon as each individual realizes that it is not only his duty, but that it will work to his own benefit to co-operate in that which will result in the greatest good to all, just as soon will the necessity for a smoke ordinance disappear. In the meantime, however, or until the present methods of burning bituminous coal are radically changed, such a necessity will exist in those localities where large quantities of such coal are consumed."

"Under present conditions it is too often the case that buildings are so designed as to leave insufficient room for the proper equipment. Boilers are placed in them and they are not properly cleaned or operated; hence they are forced, or additional capacity is crowded in, and smoke-producing conditions result. It is therefore important that the situation of the boiler plant and the providing of adequate space for it should receive consideration not less than the proper design for the furnace. Obviously, to accomplish these ends, persistent and systematic as well as scientifically correct methods must be adopted. In other words, organization is necessary, and the ordinance should specify not only how the work is to be organized, but also the necessary qualifications of those who are to be appointed to carry it on. Satisfactory progress will seldom be made unless the organization is such that certain officials or employees give their entire attention to the work of smoke abatement and are held responsible for the results produced. If the installation of improved methods is prevented, the police duties of the inspectors will eventually be reduced to a minimum. The advisability of making this sort of provision is clearly shown in nearly any one of the cities where this protective work is not done, by the fact that some of the newest plants have been so constructed that dense smoke is sent a large part of the time, even though the firing may be done with a fair degree of care and intelligence. The smoke ordinance should therefore require that plans and specifications for all construction work on furnaces be submitted to the smoke inspector and be approved by him before work is started. If this

protective feature is to be included, the smoke inspector must be an engineer, qualified by technical training and experience for the duties of the office, and the ordinance should specify that these qualifications are required.

The most important conclusion reached is that smoke abatement by ordinance can not hope to succeed unless supported by public sentiment and that a smoke ordinance should look to future prevention rather than an immediate prohibition. In other words, strict control of furnace construction offers much greater hope for smoke abatement than denunciations or position of severe penalties on the escape of dense or black smoke."

The report just issued by the Bureau is entitled, "Smoke Abatement and City Smoke Ordinances." Copies may be had by those interested writing to the Director of the Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C.

Proper Installation of Heating Equipment is Necessary.

PRESENT METHODS INEFFECTIVE

Ordinances of Various Cities Improperly Prepared and Impossible of Enforcement; Tests Show That Abatement Can Be Effectively

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Setting the speed of operating its own plant, the Bureau of Mines is attempting to combat the nuisance of smoke in cities. The bureau is not with the statement that the smoke problem can be largely reduced and perhaps entirely prevented. The power plant is connected with the important station of the Bureau at Pittsburgh, Pa., and it has been found that without objectionable smoke for more than two years.

The bureau's report, made public today, destroys the popular notion that smoke may be lessened by the use of a so-called "smoke consumer," some special device which if placed in the smoke or in the smoke passage, will in some way consume the smoke. Samuel R. Flagg, engineer in charge of the smoke investigations, declares that although such a method may not be an impossibility, it is impractical. Smoke, he says, is caused by the flames from the coal coming into contact with the cool surfaces of a boiler. As an illustration, place a saucer in the flame of a candle, and the bottom of the saucer will be covered with smoke. Hold the saucer just above the flame and there will be no smoke. Coal can be burned smokelessly, Engineer Flagg insists, if you give the coal the proper chance to burn. That is all that is to it.

The Bureau of Mines is charged with conducting tests to increase the efficiency with which the fuel purchased by the government is used, and incidentally, it has found that Federal buildings throughout the country are actually wasting coal but are adding to the smoke problem of the cities. This led to taking up an investigation of this troublesome problem.

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NEW ANTHRACITE FIELDS RIVALING PENNSYLVANIA'S

Rich Treasure Found in British Columbia Covers Big Area.

SOUVENIR OF PREHISTORIC AGE

Already 1,300 Square Miles of Claims Have Been Staked in New Groundhog District North of Grank Trunk Pacific's Line; Believed to be Rich.

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—Coal fields recently discovered that compare with those of Pennsylvania add enormous area to the anthracite fields of the continent. The entire Pennsylvania anthracite region is 3,500 square miles. Already 1,300 square miles of coal claims have been staked in the new groundhog district north of the Grank Trunk Pacific's line and west through central British Columbia.

From the Pennsylvania fields, only one-seventh of which are undeveloped, with coal over 100,000,000 tons annually are taken out, of a total value of \$200,000,000 and a potential value for greater because of the stupendous industries which have grown up around and because of them.

Not even the decision of the Grand Trunk Pacific to build across the province of British Columbia created a stir on the Pacific slope of Canada as the discovery of this coal. "If all the province were barren and other natural resources these anthracite fields lying northeast of Prince Rupert would make British Columbia rich," declared one authority. The verbal reports of G. M. Mullock, of the Dominion Geological Survey, who has spent this season in the district, are said to be very optimistic as to the extent and quality of the coal field.

Little anthracite comparatively is obtained outside of Pennsylvania and there geologists have said that 90 to 95 per cent of the original deposits have been removed by denudation. However, there was enough left to produce \$152,034,438 of wealth in 1912.

This adds the tenth well defined coal field on the continent. Geologists have found that during the coal formation of the central British Columbia a slow westward shifting of the sea in which conditions were favorable to coal formation. Some of the western fields showed a disposition to be wayward and refuse to be classified as the scientists thought they should be. The discovery of a vast quantity of coal in central British Columbia, it is said, was not at all in order, but especially remarkable in the fact that the coal is largely of anthracite quality. This is very rare. The red hot controversy whether the anthracite is anthracite because of the pressure of overlapping coal, shale, slates and conglomerate masses and the prehistoric vegetation of the good old Tertiary or Carboniferous days, and other days of Cretaceous and Triassic times.

The great Appalachian fields, which comprise as a whole parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Eastern Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama produce the major part of the supply for the country and for export when the market is opened abroad as last winter by paralysis of the mines of Britain or other countries which have been provided by the western fields showed a disposition to be wayward and refuse to be classified as the scientists thought they should be. The discovery of a vast quantity of coal in central British Columbia, it is said, was not at all in order, but especially remarkable in the fact that the coal is largely of anthracite quality. This is very rare. The red hot controversy whether the anthracite is anthracite because of the pressure of overlapping coal, shale, slates and conglomerate masses and the prehistoric vegetation of the good old Tertiary or Carboniferous days, and other days of Cretaceous and Triassic times.

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The Cheat Haven & Bruceton railroad, chartered by Pittsburgh business men, has begun the construction of eight miles of track along the right bank of the Cheat river, from a junction with the Baltimore & Ohio's line, to Lee's Ferry, W. Va., former site of furnaces and rail mills and present location of a vast hydro-electric plant in course of construction.

The new railroad is backed by the Ketchell Lumber Company, which has just completed an operation covering many thousands of acres in Garrett and Oakland counties, Md., adjacent to the Youghiogheny river. It has 25,000 acres or more in the Cheat river tract, almost adjoining the previous operation. On the Youghiogheny it used the usual mountain climbing locomotives and light rails, but the Cheat Haven road is to be of 35-pound steel rails and standard equipment, designed for permanent use.

Beyond the first use in transporting a large amount of lumber, hemlock and hardwood, chiefly a coal development is planned, much of the territory being underlain with two seams—the Pittsburgh and Precept coals. Moreover, the eight miles of road—the charter covers 30, to the Baltimore & Ohio main line—reaches to the site of the immense power dam being constructed by the Kuhn Inter-lake. It is expected this may cause a town of some importance to spring up in the wilderness.

Incidental to the surveys for the new road, the engineers have discovered the ruins of the Ben Davis furnace—note the origin of the famous red apple—which was abandoned about 1811, of the Henry Clay furnace built about 1815, and the later Ann and Luella furnaces, all charcoal burners. Here, also, was a famous nail mill that, prior to 1844, sent its products to Pittsburgh and down the Ohio river. The product was rafted in coal barges and boat bottoms to Pittsburgh, the craft being finished at Erie, Pa. The Ben Davis furnace was the population of 4,000 or 5,000 once resident there, is all gone.

Frank Cunningham is president and chief engineer of the new railroad.

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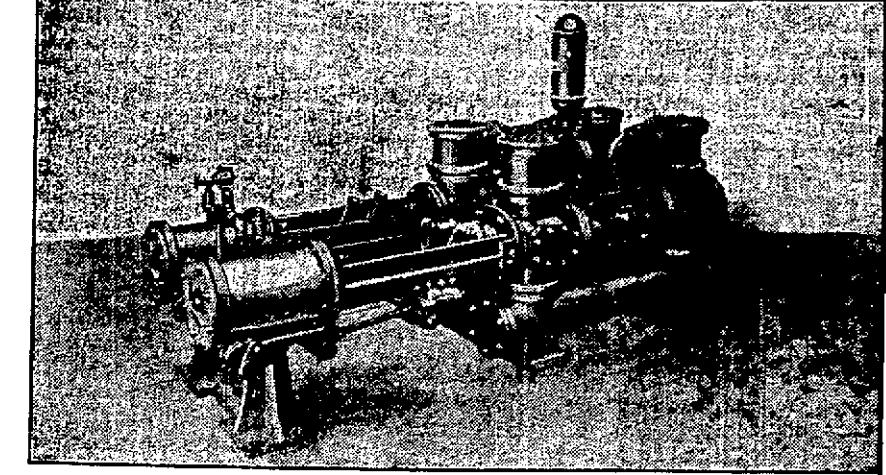
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